

# Her Majesty's REASONS

*Great Brit*  
*Am*  
For Creating the

17

Electoral Prince of

*K*  
HANOVER

A

PEER of this REALM:

OR, THE

PREAMBLE to His PATENT

AS

Duke of CAMBRIDGE.

IN

L A T I N and E N G L I S H;

WITH

REMARKS upon the same.

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L O N D O N:

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U M serenissima domus Electoralis  
 Brunsvico-Luneburgensis & regia Ma-  
 jorum nostrorum stirpe oriunda sit, &  
 avita regna ( si nos sine prole decesse-  
 rimus ) secundum leges auctoritate nostra san-  
 citas, occupare debeat ; cumque tamen enixe cu-  
 piamus, ut prædicta Domus serenissima non mi-  
 nus amicitia nobis, quam sanguine & fœderibus,  
 devinciatur : Nos, pro singulari nostro erga il-  
 lam affectu, charissimum consanguineum nostrum  
 GEO. AUGUSTUM, serenissimi Electoris filium,  
 summis honoribus augere decrevimus. Et quam-  
 vis tanti Principis filius unicus patriis finibus  
 excedere, sine gravi rerum periculo, non pos-  
 sit ; his præcipue temporibus, quibus vicini Sta-  
 tus tam violentis tempestatibus perturbantur : ut  
 tamen rebus nostris & consiliis, qua licet, hono-  
 ris



WHEREAS the most serene Electoral House  
of Brunswick-Lunenbug is sprung from the  
Royal stock of our ancestors, and is ( if  
we shou'd decease without issue ) to en-  
joy, by virtue of Laws ratify'd by our authority, the  
Kingdoms of their progenitors ; yet as we earnestly de-  
fire that the said most serene House shou'd no less be  
ty'd to us by friendship, than by blood and alliances,  
We, according to our singular affection towards the  
same, have decreed to grace with the highest Honours  
our most dear Cousin, *GEORGE AUGUSTUS*,  
son to the most serene Elector. And *although the only  
son of so great a Prince cannot go out of his native  
country without the utmost danger*, especially at this  
time, when the neighbouring States are tost with such  
violent tempests ; to the end nevertheless, that, *as  
much as possible*, he may, by the authority of his  
name



ris & nominis auctoritate, etiam absens, quodammodo interfit, illum Parium hujus regni numero adscribi jussimus. Hæ illi erunt primitiæ supremæ istius dignitatis, ad quam (nobis, nostrisque omnibus optantibus) destinatur: ut, ornatus debinc nobilissimi hujusce regni titulis, quos Regii sanguinis principes semper ambierunt, nostratam se esse gestiat. Vos interea Barones, Vicecomites, Comites, Marchiones, Duces, vobis gratulemini, quod tantæ spei princeps, Germaniæ decus & delicia, sanctissimæ nostræ Religionis vindex, & Libertatis publicæ propugnator, vobis olim imperaturus, e vobis interim unus, in vestros se ordines referri amet, &c.



name and dignity, tho absent, be in a manner  
sent in our Parliament and Councils, We have order'd  
him to be added to the number of the Peers of this  
Realm. This will be to him an earnest of that su-  
preme dignity, to which (according to ours, and the  
wishes of all our subjects) he's destin'd: that be-  
ing henceforth adorn'd with the titles of this most  
noble Kingdom, which the Princes of the Blood-royal  
have always courted, he may be proud to be ours.  
You therefore the Barons, Viscounts, Earls, Marquisses,  
and Dukes, congratulate with yourselves, that a Prince  
of so great hopes, the ornament and darling of Ger-  
many, the defender of our most holy Religion, and  
the assertor of publick Liberty, one that is hereafter  
to govern you, and till then is one of you, should  
now delight to be vested with the same Honours with  
you. &c.

# REMARKS.



SINCE it has been so fashionable of late to print the Preambles of patents constituting peers of this realm, and that this may afford no small light to future History, I have likewise thought fit to gratify the publick with the Preamble foregoing: and as others have taken the liberty to censure not only the language, but even the matter of some Patents, I may (to be sure) more warrantably make 3 or 4 Remarks to justify her Majesty's wise proceeding and upright intentions in this immediately under our consideration.

I. My first remark, or rather explanation, shall be, that by the present house of Hanover's being sprung from the Royal stock of her ancestors, the Queen does not only mean from the princess *ELIZABETH*, Queen of Bohemia, daughter to King *JAMES* the first; but also from *MATILDA* or *MAUD* King *HENRY* the second of England's daughter, who was marry'd to *HENRY* the Lyon, from whom the House of Brunswick is descended for many generations past: and therefore the princess *SOPHIA*, Electress dowager of Hanover, upon her receiving the act of succession, order'd a medal to be struck with her own bust or head on one side, and that of *MATILDA* on the reverse, betokening the descent of this new Saxon line, from the Norman and Scottish Royall families.

II. My Second remark is, that the Queen notwithstanding does not say they are to succeed to the British scepters by *hereditary right* (seeing so many families or branches, and so many particular persons of each, are in degrees of consanguinity before 'em) but by virtue of Laws ratify'd by her authority, or by *parliamentary right*; comprehending thereby her own and the Acts of King *WILLIAM* for settling the new entail of the Crown, and for securing the Succession in the Protestant line. And most certainly the government both of England and Scotland, before the Union, no less than at present, is, in its very fundamental constitution, the medium between an absolutely hereditary, and an absolutely elective Monarchy. The true State of the case is this. To prevent the incertitude, competition, bribery, and confusion of frequent elections (as in Poland) the crown is entail'd upon a particular family according to the right of primogeniture, the female succeeding in default of male Issue: but to prevent likewise our remediless falling (as in France) under the management of idiots, madmen, tyrants, or other persons incapable of rule, the crown is so limited under certain conditions relating to State and Religion, as in cases of extreme necessity to be transferable to the nearest in blood (duely capacitated) or to the most worthy of the same family. This  
has



has been often prov'd, and will be still further prov'd by ancient laws as well as facts, to be our Constitution *de jure* therefore no less than *de facto* from the very beginning: nor is it in Queen *ANN*'s, nor in Queen *ELIZABETH*'s time, that the first law was enacted, making it treason for any to assert, that the Prince and Parliament cou'd not limit or alter the Succession, and so dispose of it as they saw most conducing to the publick good. Now if the London Clergy (whose lay-pupils we may reasonably suppose had no meaning) wou'd have been at the pains to explain their new-trumpt up hereditary and indefeizable right on this foot in their last address (that is, hereditary right, under parliamentary limitations) there's no body wou'd offer to quarrel with them: whereas till something of this nature be done in a solemn and authentick manner, men cannot help believing they meant no good to the Protestant Succession, no more than they and some others of their brethren (for God be thanked all of the order are not infected) do wish well to the British Constitution, by reviving the odious, exploded, and destructive doctrines of Passive obedience and Nonresistance to the lawless commands of the Prince, or those commission'd by him, which is to bear Allegiance even to his Army.

III. My third remark is, that nothing can parallel the imprudence of those who are such fools to believe themselves, or the impudence of those who are such knaves as to make others believe, that the Queen or her Ministers have any manifest designs, or secret reserves in favour of the Pretender, which notion the Jacobites are indefatigably infusing every where. I hold it no wonder that Papists shou'd do so, who think it lawful for Princes to break their words and oaths for the service of Mother Church; but that Protestants shou'd be found, who are not onely shameless enough to insinuate these things, but exultingly show their approbation of such Politicks (which yet I prophesy will break some of their necks) is horrible and astonishing beyond any expression; especially after the Queens so clear declaration, on many other occasions as in this Preamble, that the Hanover family is to succeed her immediately, if she shou'd happen to dy without issue, and that this new title is to be to the Electoral Prince the first fruits or earnest of the Royal dignity, to which he's destin'd by her Majesties own wishes (which are the words of the Preamble) as well as by the Laws of the nation. How can any Tories then that propagate, or any Whigs that countenance, such an abominable fiction (herein equally deluded by the Jacobites) reconcile it with the character of a Protestant Princess governing by Laws, to whose sincerity and plain dealing (among the crowd of her other conspicuous virtues) the high allies and all the world bear a particular testimony? what a detestable Idea wou'd they create, while they pretend to commend? as unfit (in short) to write, as to imagine.

IV. My fourth and last remark is, that altho some Princes are said to have thought fit not to send during their lives for their immediate Successors, or  
any

any of their family, who in case of the reigning Prince's death, might take care of their interests, yet our Queen has made no such declaration; but only intimates in this Preamble the danger and inconvenience of the Electoral Prince's leaving his country during the War between the Swedes and their enemies, so that after a peace on that side (which we wish may soon happen) he may be safely invited over. But indeed he may come of himself whenever he pleases, particularly when he's summon'd to Parliament, that he may take care (as I said) of his Grandmother's interest, and that of his father, whose most serene highness cou'd not certainly at such a juncture as this securely leave his country, not onely as he's a Sovereign Prince, but as the peace of Germany will very much depend upon the councils of the wisest and richest Prince of the Empire. Neither is it by farr so dangerous for the Electoral Prince to venture abroad now, as when the Patent was penn'd; for from an onely son he has since secur'd the Succession of his family with several brave and healthy children, by one of the amiablest Princesses in the world. The case of Queen ELIZABETH, so frequent in the mouths of some well meaning people, is no manner of parallel: since, in the first place, no Successor was expressly declar'd in her reign; and that, in the second place, MART Queen of Scots pretended a better and antecedent right, never openly disclaim'd by her son King JAMES. Thus their party lookt upon them as Competitors rather than Successors, whereof so wise a princess as Queen ELIZABETH cou'd not but foresee the danger; but in the case before us there is no room so much as for a suggestion of this nature, and therefore I doubt not but so wise a princess as Queen ANNE will take proper measures *to remove the fears and jealousies of her faithful subjects.*

Let no body mistake this last expression as a contradiction to what I said in the third remark: for I am still most firmly of the same opinion, that the Succession is so far from being in danger from the Queen or her Ministers, that I cou'd as soon believe 'em in a conspiracy against themselves, as to be directly engag'd against the house of Hanover; yet I neither there nor any where else have said, that the Succession was in no danger from any other quarter. On the contrary I think it from my soul to be infinitely more in danger, ay in growing danger, than the Church cou'd ever be conceiv'd to be by the most credulous, when of late so much noise was seditiously rais'd on this subject by certain persons, who are now quite mute about Popery and the Pretender. And therefore, if I be not happily prevented (as I hope to be) by the proceedings of the ensuing Parliament, I shall not be such a traytor to my country, as to fail of giving it that publick warning, which every good subject is bound to do when he apprehends publick danger: for tho with the Irish house of Commons, *I shall ever adhere to sound Revolution principles, yet I am by no means fond of frequent Revolutions.*